



Aciphylla anomala

Common Name(s):

None known

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. NW Nelson

Habitat:

Snow tussock herbfield 1400-1700 m

Features*:

Slender tufted herb to 45 cm tall when in flower. Rosettes single or few. Leaves few, rather flaccid, 3-2 foliate or occ. reduced to a single leaflet (all forms may be present on a single plant). Sheath thin, pale, c. 80 mm long x 10 mm wide, tapering to apex; stipules absent or vestigial; petioles c. 7-8 cm long x 2 mm wide, keeled in lower part, flat in upper; internodes absent; primary pinnae 1 pair, approximate to terminal leaflet, flat, striate, margins finely serrulate-crenulate, c. 8 cm long x 2mm wide, abruptly narrowing to pungent point; terminal leaflet to 10 cm long x 3 mm wide, sometimes with 1 short accessory pinnule. Flowering stem of male plants slender, ribbed, lower bracts sometimes without flowers;

bract sheaths c. 3 cm long, thin, pale, tapering to a pair of narrow-linear, pungent, unequal stipules up to 5 mm long; bract lamina up to 7 cm long x 1 mm wide, pungent; umbels rather distant, on slender rays up to 2 cm long; umbellules several, c. 3 mm in diam., on filiform rays c. 2 mm long; flowers minute. Flowering stem of female plants similar but stouter, up to 10 mm diam.; bract sheaths firmer, furrowed, broader; stipules often reduced to one; bract lamina up to 10 cm long x 4 mm wide, midrib more evident, pungent; umbels more or less hidden by bracts, on short peduncles; umbellules few on short slender rays; fruit of two mericarps; mericarps (5.5-)6.0-8.5(-9.0), with 3-5 narrowly winged ribs, vittae sometimes obscured

Threats:

Not Threatened

***Attribution:**

Description adapted from Allan (1961), Mark and Adams (1995) and Webb and Simpson (2001).

References and further reading:

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Mark, A.F; Adams, N.M. 1995. New Zealand alpine plants, 2nd Edition. Godwit Publishing, Auckland

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Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1450



Caption: Mt Arthur, January
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth